



## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re U.S. Patent Application of:

Jens PETERSEN, et al.

Serial No.: 09/938,670

Filing Date: August 27, 2001

Group Art Unit:

3738

Examiner:

David J. Isabella

Confirmation No.: 2509

Title: POLYACRYLAMIDE HYDROGEL AND ITS USE AS AN ENDOPROSTHES

Commissioner for Patents MAILSTOP RCE PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

THESIS TECHNOLOGY CENTER PORC SUBMISSION TO ACCOMPANY REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 IN VIEW OF FINAL OFFICE ACTION DATED JANUARY 29, 2004

Sir:

The present Amendment is filed as the submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 to accompany a Request for Continued Examination (RCE). The RCE and this submission are filed in response to a Final Office Action dated January 29, 2004, in the above-captioned application (the "Application"). A petition for a one (1) month extension of time and the requisite fee are filed herewith. Applicants respectfully request that the finality of the rejection be withdrawn and request reconsideration of the Application in light of the following amendments and remarks.

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper. Remarks begin on page 8 of this paper.